

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a protein, a polypeptide or a peptide secreted from a differentiated human adipocyte, said method comprising: comprising

a) isolating human preadipocytes and culturing said preadipocytes in a preadipocyte medium for a period of time, wherein said preadipocytes are plated at a density of about 25,000 to 40,000 cells/cm², and further wherein said preadipocytes are primary cultures;

b) differentiating said human preadipocytes with a differentiation medium comprising a defined cell culture medium; wherein said medium comprises 1.0-4.5 g/liter glucose, a cyclic AMP inducer, a glucocorticoid or a ~~glucocorticoid~~ glucocorticoid analogue, insulin or an insulin analogue, and a Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor gamma agonist or a retinoic acid X receptor agonist effective to stimulate differentiation of said human preadipocytes;

c) fractionating the conditioned medium of the differentiated adipocytes;

d) comparing the pattern of proteins, polypeptides or peptides in the conditioned medium of said differentiated adipocytes with the pattern of proteins, polypeptides or peptides secreted by an undifferentiated adipocyte;

e) identifying the protein, polypeptide or peptide secreted by the differentiated adipocyte.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said differentiation medium further comprise 3-10% fetal bovine serum.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said differentiation medium further comprise 1-100 μ M pantothenate and 1-100 μ M biotin.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said differentiation

medium further comprises a buffer having a pH of about 7.0 to 7.6.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said differentiation medium is Dulbeccos Modified Eagle/Hams' F-10 Nutrient Broth (1:1 vol/vol).

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor gamma agonist is thiazolidinedione.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein said thiazolidinedione is BRL 49653.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the concentration of said BRL 49653 is about 0.5-1.0 μM .

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said thiazolidinedione is troglitazone.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the concentration of said troglitazone is about 0.5-1.0 μM .

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said glucocorticoid is dexamethasone, hydrocortisone or cortisol.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the concentration of said glucocorticoid is about 16 nM to 1.0 μM .

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said cyclic AMP inducer is isobutylmethylxanthine or forskolin.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said

isobutylmethylxanthine is present in said differentiation medium at a final concentration of about 0.2 to 0.5 mM.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the concentration of insulin is about 100 nM to 1.0 μ M.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein exogenous DNA has been introduced into said preadipocyte.